

P.S./WASHINGTON

• Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, readers of a newspaper column that I have written within the last 2 weeks were exposed to a tribute to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and a serious discussion about public opposition to homosexuals in the military.

For the benefit of my colleagues, I ask that they be printed in the RECORD. The columns follow:

THE HATERS TARGET HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

(By Senator Paul Simon)

When I was about nine years old, my father took me to hear Eleanor Roosevelt speak. Even as a nine-year-old, I knew she had sparked controversy. My father, a Lutheran minister, told me that she stood for helping those in great need.

Years later I had the opportunity to meet her a few times, and on one occasion to sit next to her at a dinner. A plainspoken woman of simple tastes but obvious conviction, she somehow stirred passionate opposition.

History now regards her as one of our finest first ladies.

I mention this because in a somewhat similar way, Hillary Rodham Clinton manages to generate strong feelings of disapproval from some. I confess I do not understand it.

I saw her leadership on the health care issue, and while some mistakes were made and the nation did not get health coverage for all our citizens, I have yet to meet anyone who sat in any of those meetings who did not come away impressed by her ability, her mastery of the subject, and her sincerity.

In one interview that has been published, she half-apologized for the way she has handled things.

She is not the person who should apologize; it is the mean-spirited haters who should reflect on their response.

There are those who expect the first lady to be present on official occasions, smile sweetly at the appropriate time, cut a ribbon for a new building or enterprise now and then but otherwise be devoid of opinion or influence.

That day has passed.

I have served under five presidents, beginning with Gerald Ford. All of their wives, starting with Betty Ford, are known to have played a role in public matters. Hillary Clinton has done it more openly.

Senator Bob Dole is the leading Republican candidate for President today. If he should be elected, Elizabeth Dole, a former cabinet member and now president of the American Red Cross, will not be some decorative figure sitting on the sidelines. "Liddy" Dole will make her presence felt on the national scene, if that situation arises, and I would want her to do that.

My wife, Jeanne Simon, has contributed significantly to what I have been able to do in public life, and I am grateful to her for that, and proud of her for that.

President Clinton brought to the White House someone whose leadership and base of conviction means much to all of us.

Her critics are noisier than her supporters. That is always the case.

But she should know that there are many of us who are grateful to her.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND MILITARY SERVICE

(By Senator Paul Simon)

"How can you support having homosexuals in the armed forces?" a visibly angry woman asked me after a town meeting recently. "Don't you believe in the Bible?"

I confess I am not much impressed by people who hate in the name of religion. But let

me answer her question partially, since I do not claim to be a theologian.

When I was a boy, my father never had to call me aside and say, "Paul, you ought to be interested in girls." I came by it very naturally. He had to give me other warnings!

Just as my interest in girls came naturally, that is not natural for a small percentage of men. There is evidence that there is a genetic basis for this difference among men, although the scientific research is less complete for women.

Regardless of the reasons for this difference, there are several issues that woman with the angry question should address.

If there is a military emergency and we have a draft, would you exempt anyone who says he is gay? The percentage of those claiming to be gay would suddenly escalate!

Because you mentioned the biblical basis for your beliefs, since the 10 Commandments mention adultery and not homosexuality, and adultery is condemned at least 40 times more than homosexuality in the Bible, should we keep anyone out of the service who has committed adultery? My recollection of my Army days is that would thin our ranks appreciably.

Or should we judge people by their conduct, not their genes? That makes sense to me.

When I was in the Army—long ago—I served in intelligence and we screened people for security clearances. Those who were gay were kicked out of the Army—that's a recent phenomenon—but they could not get security clearances because we judged that they could be blackmailed, certainly a proper judgment in the early 1950s.

But during those days, and during all of our previous wars, we had an armed service to be proud of, and it was inclusive.

There is also the problem of where you stop the practice of discrimination. If people cannot serve in the armed forces, what about the police force or fire department? What jobs would you let them have? Once you start the practice of discrimination, where do you stop?

I would finally ask that woman who is so righteously angry: What would you do if your son or daughter came home and told you that he or she is gay?

What would you do?

My guess is that even that hard heart would melt.

And become more understanding. •

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator BYRD, I ask unanimous consent that the Byrd amendments be voted in the following sequence: amendment No. 252, amendment No. 254, amendment No. 255, amendment No. 253, and amendment No. 258; further, that amendment No. 289 be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMENDING ROBERT D. REISCHAUER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CONGRESS AND THE NA- TION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of Senate Resolution 81 submitted earlier today by Senator DOMENICI and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 81) commending Robert D. Reischauer for his service to the Congress and to the Nation.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Without objection, the preamble is agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 81) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 81

Whereas Dr. Robert D. Reischauer served as Director of the Congressional Budget Office from March 6, 1989 to February 28, 1995;

Whereas he previously served in that office in its formative years from February 28, 1975 to April 1, 1981 as a Special Assistant, Assistant Director, and Deputy Director;

Whereas he has ably and faithfully performed the difficult duties of the Director's office serving all Members of the Congress with great professional integrity and dedication;

Whereas he has maintained the high tradition of that office by providing critical analysis and review of complex fiscal policy issues pending before the Congress;

Whereas he has provided the Congress and the American public with analysis of these complex fiscal policy issues with candor, objectivity, and clarity;

Whereas he has performed the duties of his office with remarkable diligence, perseverance, and intelligence often at great sacrifice to his personal life; and

Whereas he has earned the respect, affection, and esteem of the United States Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the United States commends Robert D. Reischauer for his long, faithful, and exemplary service to his country and to the Senate.

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until the hour of 9 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date; that the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and at that time the Senate resume consideration of House Joint Resolution 1.

I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess between the hours of 12:30 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. in order for the weekly party caucuses to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.